

Steve Franks OC Community Resources

> Jennifer Phillips OC Animal Care

Karen Roper Director OC Community Services

> Mark Denny OC Parks

Helen Fried County Librarian OC Public Libraries

July 14, 2008

Douglas Bosco, Chairman California State Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13th Floor Oakland, CA 94612-2530

RE: Proposition 12 Funding Distribution for Bunn Property Acquisition

Dear Chairman Bosco and Members of the Board,

The County of Orange has supported the successful efforts of the Laguna Canyon Foundation in the use of funding from the 2000 state park bond for additional parkland acquisitions, pre-acquisition support activities and the interpretive exhibits for the Nix Nature Center at Laguna Coast Wilderness Park. Their efforts have increased the South Coast Wilderness system of parks and preserves by 238 acres. The more than 20,000 acres of coastal canyon land includes two county parks.

The Foundation's current request before your Board is for the proposed acquisition of the 4.5 acre "Bunn" property for open space, public access and habitat preservation. A total of \$679,000 is requested for acquisition and closing costs. OC Parks supports this funding request.

OC Parks staff will recommend to the Orange County Board of Supervisors that the County lease the property from the City of Laguna Beach, who will hold fee title. This will allow the land to be managed as part of the County's Laguna Coast Wilderness Park and is consistent with previous acquisitions in this area.

We appreciate the cooperative partnership with the City of Laguna Beach and the Laguna Canyon Foundation to support efforts that support the intent of the park bond measure. Thank you for considering this request.

Mark Denny, Director

OC Parks

Pat Bates, Supervisor, 5th District Cc:

Deborah Ruddock, California Coastal Conservancy

Ken Frank, City of Laguna Beach

Laguna Canyon Foundation